

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----092418 120519Z /13

O 120351Z APR 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0638

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01383

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, MARR, MOPS, UNSC, IS, LE, XF

SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: SYG WALDHEIM PLANS TO VISIT
MIDDLE EAST

1. SUMMARY: SYG WALDHEIM HOPES TO VISIT LEBANON
AND ISRAEL APRIL 17 AND 18. LEBANESE ARE ENTHUSIASTIC
ABOUT VISIT WHILE ISRAELI REPLY NOT YET RECEIVED. IN
ADDITION TO TALKS WITH LEBANESE AND ISRAELI LEADERS
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AND GENERALS SIILASVUO AND ERSKINE, WALDHEIM
HAS INVITED SYRIAN FM KHADDAM TO MEET WITH HIM
IN BEIRUT IF POSSIBLE AND WILL ALSO SEE ARAFAT.
WEIZMAN HAS GIVEN SIILASVUO PLAN FOR FURTHER
WITHDRAWAL BUT ON QUICK READING URQUHART DID NOT THINK
IT CHANGED SITUATION VERY MUCH. END SUMMARY.

2. UN UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL URQUHART FILLED AMB. LEONARD IN APRIL 11 ON PLANS FOR TRIP TO ME THAT SYG WALDHEIM EXPECTS TO MAKE APRIL 17-18. URQUHART (WHO WILL ACCOMPANY SYG) SAID GOL HAD WELCOMED IDEA OF VISIT WITH TREMENDOUS ENTHUSIASM BUT THAT ISRAELI REACTION HAD NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED AND PLAN WAS THEREFORE STILL CONFIDENTIAL. WALDHEIM EXPECTS TO ARRIVE IN BEIRUT 9:30 A.M. APRIL 17 AND TO MEET WITH LEBANESE PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER. HE WOULD THEN SEE ARAFAT AND HE HOPES ALSO TO SEE SYRIAN FM KHADDAM WHOM HE ASKED TO COME TO BEIRUT IF POSSIBLE. GOL SAID IT WOULD URGE KHADDAM TO DO SO.

3. SAME EVENING WALDHEIM WILL GO TO JERUSALEM FOR WORKING DINNER WITH SIILASVUO AND ERSKINE. APRIL 18 HE HAS ASKED TO MEET WITH ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER, DEFENSE MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER (LAST APPOINTMENT IS DOUBTFUL, SINCE HERZOG TOLD URQUHART DAYAN IS STILL DISASSOCIATING HIMSELF FROM ENTIRE LEBANESE OPERATION.) LATER IN DAY WALDHEIM WILL VISIT UNIFIL ON GROUND IN SOUTH LEBANON. DETAILS OF THIS ARE NOT YET WORKED OUT. HE WILL RETURN TO NY FROM MIDDLE EAST ON APRIL 19.

4. URQUHART SAID THAT HE HAS EMPHASIZED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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ISRAEL AND LEBANON THAT THIS IS TO BE A WORKING VISIT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF SC RES 425. SYG WILL PRESS ISRAELIS ON URGENT NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL AND GOL ON TAKING ACTION TO REASSERT ITS AUTHORITY IN SOUTH LEBANON. HE ALSO WISHES TO USE TRIP TO DO WHATEVER IS POSSIBLE THROUGH DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL CONCERNED (INCLUDING SIILASVUO AND ERSKINE) AND PERSONAL OBSERVATION TO SPEED UP DEPLOYMENT OF UNIFIL, IMPROVE COORDINATION, AND GENERALLY ENHANCE EFFECTIVENESS OF UN OPERATION.

5. WHILE ORIGINALLY NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT SUCH TRIP, URQUHART NOW BELIEVES IT CAN BE USEFUL. HE INFORMED KUWAITI AMB. BISHARA IN CONFIDENCE OF POSSIBILITY OF TRIP AND BISHARA ALSO THOUGHT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL. BISHARA EVEN SUGGESTED THAT IT COULD HELP DEFER SC MEETING. URQUHART AGREES ON LATTER POINT BUT NOTED TO LEONARD THAT IF WALDHEIM RETURNS EMPTY-HANDED THE SITUATION WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT.

6. TURNING TO SC CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 12, URQUHART SAID HE HAD ASKED AILASVUO TO PROVIDE

WHATEVER INFORMATION HE COULD ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL
URGENTLY AND THAT HE HAD CONFIRMATION OF ISRAELI
MOVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH FIRST PLAN. DURING
COURSE OF MEETING WITH LEONARD URQUHART RECEIVED
REPORT OF SIILASVUO-WEIZMAN MEETING THAT TOOK PLACE
AT 6:00 P.M. JERUSALEM TIME. A QUICK READING
INDICATED THAT WEIZMAN HAD RESPONDED TO SIILASVUO'S
REQUEST FOR FURTHER WITHDRAWAL PLANS WITH REITERATION
OF ISRAELI VIEW THAT THERE MUST BE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN WITHDRAWAL AND DEPLOYMENT OF UN AND LEBANESE
FORCES. AT END OF MEETING WEIZMAN SUBMITTED A PLAN
FOR FURTHER SMALL WITHDRAWAL. URQUHART'S REACTION
AS HE READ IT WAS CLEARLY ONE OF GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT

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AND HE SAID HE DID NOT THINK HE WOULD MENTION IT
SPECIFICALLY WHEN HE MAKES HIS ORAL REPORT TO SC

DURING CONSULTATIONS WEDNESDAY AS HE FEARS IT WILL
HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECT.

7. LEONARD TOLD URQUHART THAT WE WOULD BE MAKING
A FURTHER APPROACH TO ISRAELIS AS OUTLINED IN CONVERSATION
WITH DEPT PRIOR TO MEETING. HE NOTED THAT POINTS
ON WHICH WALDHEIM PLANNED TO CONCENTRATE DURING HIS
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ME TRIP WERE IN LINE WITH US OBJECTIVES. HE PROBED
INDIRECTLY ON POSSIBILITY THAT SOMEONE
IN JERUSALEM UN HDQTRS MIGHT BE GIVING ISRAELIS
IMPRESSION THAT WITHDRAWAL NOT AS URGENT AS WE
BELIEVED. URQUHART ACKNOWLEDGED PROBLEM AND SAID
ONE REASON HE WISHED TO MAKE TRIP WAS TO TALK
TO SIILASVUO ABOUT THIS. YOUNG

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